



**DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
2320 South DuPont Highway, Dover, DE 19901

**To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors**

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**Contact**

**Anne Fitzgerald**

**800.282.8685 (DE only)**

**302.698.4520**

**302.242.4092 (Cell)**

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## **Secretary Kee Invites Farmers to Upcoming Workshops**

New Delaware Department of Agriculture (DDA) Secretary Ed Kee is encouraging Delaware farmers to attend an upcoming workshop series to fully explore all their crop insurance and revenue coverage options for 2009. Producers have additional considerations this year since the 2008 Farm Bill includes a new disaster assistance program called the Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE). SURE provides an additional whole farm revenue guarantee which depends upon the operation's total crop insurance and revenue coverage value.

"The implementation of the SURE program provides a new incentive for producers to scrutinize their 2009 risk management strategy and, perhaps, reposition regarding their crop insurance coverage," said Kee. "The good news is that DDA can help farmers compare their options and optimize their coverage. A good starting point is the upcoming free workshops we are conducting in cooperation with the University of Delaware Cooperative Extension."

The workshop series will be conducted at two locations simultaneously. The two sites will be linked through Internet Television (ITV) so that participants can communicate and ask questions between locations. They are:

**Delaware Department of Agriculture**  
**2320 South DuPont Highway**  
**Dover, Delaware 19901**  
**(For directions call (302) 739-4811)**  
**(For directions call (302) 856-7303)**

**Elbert N. & Ann V. Carvel**  
**Research and Education Center**  
**16483 County Seat Highway**  
**Georgetown, Delaware 19947**

Don Clifton, who conducts the DDA Risk Management Education Program said, "We have held a couple workshops with this format and it works very well. Farmers can attend the location most convenient for them. " "This year we kick off the series with a look at how we can build a risk management strategy with the new SURE program adding a layer of revenue protection to our own crop insurance choices," Clifton said. "As a producer myself, I intend to re-examine my coverage strategy."

All workshops are scheduled for 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. and are free to the public. The dates and topics are as follows:

- February 11, 2009 Whole Farm Revenue Coverage – Building a Risk Management Strategy
- February 17, 2009 How Crop Insurance and Revenue Coverage Works – The Nuts and Bolts
- February 24, 2009 Crop Insurance Provisions for Delmarva Crops
- February 25, 2009 Combination Session – Repeat of the Previous Three Sessions (if you missed one)
- March 4, 2009 Crop Revenue Coverage and Group Risk Income Protection

**-More-**

Don Clifton added, “Although the workshops are free, we ask that those planning to attend call and register so we can make sure we prepare enough seating and printed materials. The toll free number for the DDA Crop Insurance Info Line is (877) 673- 2767.”

DDA does not sell crop insurance. In partnership with the USDA Risk Management Agency, DDA seeks to ensure that every Delaware producer understands his/her crop insurance options and obligations. For questions about the workshops or the latest developments in crop insurance, producers may call the DDA Crop Insurance Info Line; toll free, at (877) 673-2767.

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